

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ROME 20788 231606Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15 /054 W
-----240238Z 107915 /66

R 231524Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1909
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 20788

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: ITALIAN REACTION TO ARREST OF SPANISH
CP SECRETARY CARRILLO

1. SANTIAGO CARRILLO'S ARREST ON THE SIDEWALKS OF MADRID WAS FRONT-PAGE NEWS IN THE ITALIAN PRESS TODAY. WHILE MODERATE AND CONSERVATIVE PAPERS PROVIDED STRAIGHT-FORWARD ACCOUNTS, LEFT MEDIA TREATMENT WAS PREDICTABLY SHRILLER (UNITA CALLED IT "AN ODIIOUS GESTURE"). PCI SECRETARY BERLINGUER ISSUED A STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY WHICH CALLED ON ITALIAN AND WORLD OPINION "TO EXERCISE THE NECESSARY PRESSURE FOR SANTIAGO CARRILLO'S IMMEDIATE RELEASE." HE DESCRIBED THE ARREST AS "IN CLEAR CONTRADICTION" TO THE GOS'S STATED AIM OF RESTORING DEMOCRACY. SOCIALIST LEADER CRAXI ISSUED A SIMILAR DECLARATION.

2. WHILE THE REACTION OF ITALIAN POLITICAL LEADERS OF THE LEFT WAS PREDICTABLE, THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY SPOKESMEN IS OF GREATER INTEREST. REPORTEDLY RESPONDING TO A REQUEST BY CRAXI, FOREIGN MINISTER FORLANI INSTRUCTED THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN MADRID TO MAKE URGENT REPRESENTATIONS TO THE GOS ON THE "PRE-OCCUPATION" OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC OPINION AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ROME 20788 231606Z

POLITICAL PARTIES ON THE STATE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN SPAIN. THE DC'S NEW FOREIGN AFFAIRS HEAD (GRANELLI) ALSO ISSUED A STATEMENT DECRYING ALL RESTRICTIONS ON CIVIL LIBERTIES AND CHARACTERIZING THE ARREST AS A "SERIOUS ACT" WHICH THROWS "A DISQUIETING SHADOW" OVER THE RETURN TO DEMOCRACY IN SPAIN.

3. COMMENT: THE GOI'S AND DC'S PROMPT CONDEMNATION OF CARRILLO'S ARREST IS OF INTEREST FOR WHAT IT REVEALS ABOUT THE CURRENT ITALIAN POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE. IT RECALLS THE ALMOST UN-SEEMLY SCCAMBLING BY DC POLITICIANS (E.G. FANFANI) TO IN-GRATiate THEMSELVES WITH THE LEFT AT MINIMUM COST BY RECEIVING CARRILLO PROMINENTLY DURING LAST FALL'S SPANISH CP CC MEETING IN ROME. THE ALACRITY IN DEFENDING THE SPANISH CP CONTRASTS WITH THE RELUCTANCE TO COMMENT ON EVENTS EMBARRASSING TO THE LEFT (SUCH AS LAST SUMMER'S SHOOTING OF AN ITALIAN WORKER BY DDR BORDER POLICE OR THE BIERMANN DEPORTATION). BEAUDRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ARRESTS, PARTY LEADERS, COMMUNISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME20788
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760471-0948
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761216/aaaaanyp.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN REACTION TO ARREST OF SPANISH CP SECRETARY CARRILLO
TAGS: PINT, IT, (CARRILLO, SANTIAGO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006